

We claim:

1. A method comprising:

installing software on a computer for a device to be connected to the computer;

and,

5 performing one or more actions selected from the group of actions essentially consisting of:

while installing the software on the computer, suppressing an automatic installation mode for the device initiated by an operating system of the computer upon the device being connected to the computer prior to the software being completely

10 installed on the computer; and,

after installing the software on the computer, instructing a user to connect the device to the computer and initiating the automatic installation mode for the device without having the computer rebooted.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein installing the software on the computer comprises

15 a user manually initiating installation of the software.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein installing the software on the computer comprises a user inserting a removable computer-readable medium into the computer, insertion of the media causing installation of the software.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein suppressing the automatic installation mode

20 comprises:

detecting a new window;

determining whether the new window relates to the automatic installation mode;

and,

upon determining that the new window relates to the automatic installation mode, closing the window.

5 The method of claim 1, wherein initiating the automatic installation mode for the device comprises calling a hardware re-enumeration routine of the operating system of the computer.

6 The method of claim 1, further comprising, after instructing the user to connect the device to the computer, waiting for the user to confirm that the device is connected to the computer.

10 7. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor of a computer to perform a method comprising:

installing software on the computer for a device to be connected to the computer;

and,

while installing the software on the computer,

15 detecting a new window;

determining whether the new window relates to an automatic installation mode for the device initiated by an operating system of the computer;

upon determining that the new window relates to the automatic installation mode, closing the window to exit the automatic installation mode.

20 8. The medium of claim 7, wherein determining whether the new window relates to the automatic installation mode comprises comparing an attribute associated with the new window to an attribute associated with the automatic installation mode.

9. The medium of claim 8, wherein comparing the attribute associated with the new window to the attribute associated with the automatic installation mode comprises comparing a string resource associated with the new window to a string resource associated with the automatic installation mode.

5 10. The medium of claim 7, further comprising, upon determining that the new window relates to the automatic installation mode, setting a flag.

11. The medium of claim 10, further comprising, after installing the software,  
in response to determining that the flag has been set, re-initiating the automatic installation mode for the device; and,

10 otherwise, instructing a user to connect the device to the computer, to cause the operating system to initiate the automatic installation mode for the device.

12. The medium of claim 11, wherein re-initiating the automatic installation mode for the device comprises calling a hardware re-enumeration routine of the operating system.

15 13. A point-of-sale device package comprising:

a device to be connected to a computer via a connector of the device coupling to a corresponding connector of the computer; and,

means for suppressing an automatic installation mode for the device initiated by an operating system of the computer upon the device being connected to the computer prior to the software being completely installed.

14. The package of claim 13, wherein the device is selected from the group essentially consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a multi-function device, and, a digital camera.

15. The package of claim 13, wherein the connector of the device is selected from the group essentially consisting of: a Universal Serial Bus (USB) connector, and an

5 IEEE-1394 connector.

16. A computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for execution by a processor of a computer to perform a method comprising:

installing software on the computer for a device to be connected to the computer, an operating system of the computer unable to automatically detect connection of the

10 device to the computer;

instructing a user to connect the device to the computer;

waiting for the user to confirm that the device is connected to the computer; and,

initiating an automatic installation mode for the device, without rebooting the computer and without having the computer turned off and back on.

15 17. The medium of claim 16, wherein initiating the automatic installation mode for the device comprises calling a hardware re-enumeration routine of the operating system.

18. A point-of-sale device package comprising:

a device to be connected to a computer via a connector of the device coupling to a  
20 corresponding connector of the computer, an operating system of the computer unable to automatically detect connection of the device to the computer; and,

means for installing software on the computer for the device, and for initiating an

automatic installation mode of an operating system of the computer only after installing the software, without rebooting the computer.

19. The package of claim 18, wherein the device is selected from the group essentially consisting of: a printer, a scanner, a multi-function device, and, a digital camera.

- 5 20. The package of claim 18, wherein the connector of the device is selected from the group essentially consisting of: a serial port, a parallel port, and an IEEE-1284 connector.

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